

# Atlanta Ham

ATTENTION: SEE PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGE PAGE 6

JANUARY 2002

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## Upcoming Hamfests...

### Feb 2-3

Southeastern Division  
Convention – MIAMI  
[www.hamboree.org](http://www.hamboree.org)

### Feb 8-10

ORLANDO FLA  
[www.oarc.org/hamcat.html](http://www.oarc.org/hamcat.html)

### Feb 23

DALTON GA

### Mar 16-17

Kennehoochee ARC  
[qsl.asti.com/hootch/KARC-HamF.html](http://qsl.asti.com/hootch/KARC-HamF.html)

## ATLANTA HAM LOST IN WOODS...

### A Hunting I Went - An APRS Story - Part One

Submitted by:  
David P Schornak KG4LSK  
[Kg4lsk@arrl.net](mailto:Kg4lsk@arrl.net)

*If you have an interesting story, article, or tech tip, publish it here in the ATLANTA HAM*

## KID'S DAY Jan 5, 2002

ARRL LETTER DEC 2001

Are you ready? Here comes Kid's Day! On Saturday, January 5, sit down at your radio, tune it up, then share it with the younger generation. Let them talk about Pokemon, school, games, Harry Potter, computers, friends and other kid stuff, while you manage the technical aspects and just watch and listen for a change. Kid's Day is always lots of fun for all ages, and it's a terrific opportunity for parents, clubs and individual amateurs to show youngsters what great fun ham radio can be. For more information about Kid's Day, visit the Kid's Day Rules page on the ARRL Web site

*(Continued on page 6)*

I am big on A.P.R.S. (Amateur Position Reporting System), as most know from my presentation at the club meeting. I wanted to use it while I was hunting to let everyone here at home know that I was safe and as a method to contact people if I should need help. Well, I got my chance to test A.P.R.S. in the real world. I left to go hunting on November 16, 2001. My scheduled return date was to be November 27, 2001, with a possibility that I might stay longer. Well I did, and came home for a day on November 29, 2001. I returned the following day and came home to

stay on December 5, 2001. The hunting trip was fun and the prey stayed concealed so I came home without success in the hunting part of the trip. However, I had a lot fun with the A.P.R.S. part of my trip. For equipment I took the following: Kenwood tm d700. Kenwood th d7g. Two Delorme Tripmate. Extra batteries and other necessities

The d700 is the mobile rig that I use in my jeep for day to day driving and one of the Tripmates was connected to this rig, as it would be used on the trip

*(Continued on page 8)*

## HAM OF THE YEAR 2001

Submitted by: Penn, K4PE

Congratulations to John Talipsky Jr for winning the Ham of the Year award. John has served the club in a variety of ways over the years, and is a past-President. His service this year included being Hamfest Chairman, and contributing editor of the Ham. In his role as Hamfest Chairman he raised money for the club. Most anyone can spend money like the repeater committee did this year, but it takes someone special to raise money. Unbeknownst to many of you, his father even turned over production of the Ham to John several months this year. It reminds me of George Woodruff's slogan: "No telling

*(Continued on page 4)*

## THE ATLANTA HAM

**The Atlanta HAM** is the official bulletin of The Atlanta Radio Club serving its members and the Atlanta community. Original articles, art, and photos are welcome. Copyrighted material cannot be printed without permission from the appropriate legal authority. Please include such disclaimers in all materials submitted.

Submit articles:

Atlanta Radio Club  
Attn: HAM EDITOR  
PO BOX 942150  
Atlanta, Georgia 31141

Contact the editor for available formats to transfer material.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS THE 21ST OF EACH MONTH!**

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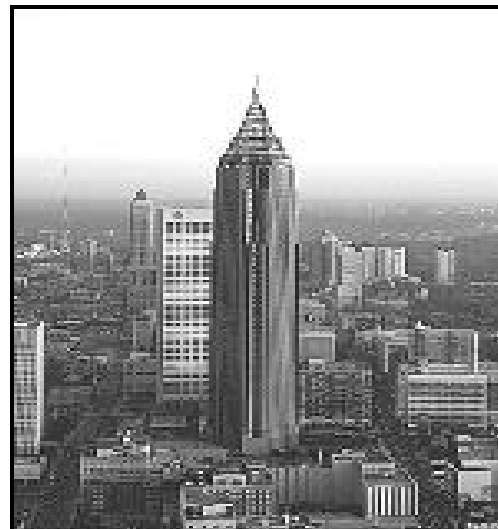
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## THE ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, W4DOC

Originally known as the "Atlanta Wireless Club," the Atlanta Radio Club is one of the oldest and largest amateur radio clubs in the United States. With nearly 200 members, the Club sponsors numerous activities and services for its membership and for the Atlanta area amateur radio community.

The Club is best known for its sponsorship of the annual Atlanta HamFestival, a Saturday event which hosts many vendors, exhibitors, and flea marketers of amateur radio equipment and other electronic equipment, including computers



Bank of America Tower  
Site of Atlanta Repeaters:  
146.82(-), 224.34(-) and 444.825(+)

## W4DOC REPEATERS

The Atlanta Radio Club operates five repeaters at two locations. Currently our most active project is at the Bank of America Tower where we operate three repeaters at 146.82(-), 224.34 (-), and 444.825(+). All our repeaters are undergoing extensive renovations during the summer of 2001. On the web, go to <http://www.saf.com/arc/repeater.pdf> for a Acrobat 4.0 diagram of our system.

Our second location is the WFOX broadcast tower at Chestnut Mountain, south of Gainesville, GA. We operate three repeaters on 145.35(-) & 444.45 (+) . These repeaters are being renovated under the expert guidance of Dennis, KF4MHW, and should also be on the air before January 1, 2002. For pictures of that site, see <http://www.saf.com/arc/wfox.html>

## ASSOCIATE ORGANIZATIONS



## MEETING NOTICE

**WHEN:** Thursday January 3, 2002 730pm  
**WHERE:** The Red Cross Training Rooms  
Lindbergh Plaza, Sidney Marcus  
& Piedmont Ave  
**TALK IN:** 146.820  
**DINNER:** The Picadilly Cafeteria located in the same  
building. We dine around 615PM

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – PENN K4PE

Thanks to John Talipsky Jr for making our BBQ Christmas party at JR's Loghouse a big success. It was wonderful to see everyone. We had nearly 50 folks there and may need a bigger place next year as the club continues to grow. Our newly elected Assistant ARRL SE Division Section Manager, Sandy, W4RU, joined us, and he generously donated a 2002 hardbound Handbook for our door prize.

Congratulations to Sandy on winning the Assistant SM's election, and also thanks go out to Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, for agreeing to fill Sandy's Georgia ARRL Section Management job until the next election in 2003. Susan has served as President of the GARS club, and is a prominent member of Atlanta's ham community. Also in attendance at the Christmas party were the new Branch Manager of RadioShack.com, Earl, and his young family. Earl moved his family to Atlanta from Arizona this fall so he could take this promotion.

### Upcoming Programs

Marty Reynolds, AA4RM, is going to present a program entitled "We started out with solid state, and, Look! Here we are again!" Marty was a long time ARC member who drifted away in recent years to participate in the Southeast Antique Radio Society or SARS. He is bringing a Arlington Loose Coupler, a National SW3, National FB7, Collins 75A1, a Squires Sanders SS1R and a Lowe HF150. He'll disclose why these are the examples on Thursday night, January 3<sup>d</sup>. At our February 7 and March 7 meetings N4OUT and KD4BKU will teach us about the Linux operating system.

***A special "Thank You!" to David Schornak, KG4LSK, for his many contributions to this issue of the Atlanta Ham!***

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## HAM OF YEAR...

what a man can accomplish if he doesn't care who gets the credit." John also serves as Activities Chairman and retrieves the monthly door prize from HRO each month. He has done more work in the *background* for the ARC than anyone this year, and he deserves every bit of recognition we can muster.

John objected to his nomination on the grounds that he wanted someone new to the club to win. There are certainly opportunities for newcomers to contribute! The ARC needs a Training Manager, and the Hamfest is a monumental effort. John will be asking for help again in 2002, and the Hamfest is a super way to meet new friends in the club. (I would like to enhance the 444.825 machine with the proceeds from this year's Hamfest.) Andy, KD4ABB, often needs help with the antenna work on the bank tower, and Dean, KR4IU, is always looking for folks to help as Net Control on Sunday nights. We also need an ARRL ARES liaison. There are so many ways you can help! Please come to the meetings, enjoy our repeaters, and learn more about the Atlanta Radio Club.

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!

NEED A PLACE TO ADVERTISE?

CONTACT JOHN, KI4Y FOR RATES!

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## A LITTLE HUMOR... Lee, AF4IA

Two Yagi antennas meet on a roof - fall in love - and get married.

The ceremony was kind of boring, but the reception was great!

## METRO TESTING SESSIONS

Call ahead to verify session and be prepared with the appropriate forms and required papers. A small fee may be charged. Check with the VEC

First Sunday WCARS VEC  
2:00 PM (Except July and September)  
Johnson High School  
3305 Poplar Springs Road, Gainseville  
Terry Jones, W4TL (770)967-6364

Second Tuesday 7:00 PM  
Walton EMC Building  
3645 Lenora Church Road, Snellville  
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA (770)498-7759

Second SaturdayCA VEC 8:30 AM  
Stone Mountain Methodist Church  
5312 West Mountain Street, Stone Mountain  
Hal Martin, K14RD (770)978-9160

Third SaturdayCA VEC 9:00 AM  
Marietta First United Methodist Church  
Room 305  
56 Whitlock Avenue, Marietta  
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ (770)955-3171

Fourth Tuesday ARRL VEC 7:00 PM  
United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville  
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK (770)942-6466

Fourth FridayW5YI VEC 7:00 PM  
St. John Neumann Church  
801 Tom Smith Road, Lilburn  
Headphones provided  
Howie Gould, W9HG (770)921-8362

## ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2002

STARS – JANUARY 26 12pm – 3pm SCITREK

ATLANTA HAMFEST 2002... Always looking for volunteers. This is a good chance to have some fun and see what goes on behind the scenes in planning for a Hamfest. Jobs are easy, give me a call  
John Talipsky, 770-995-6446

## REPEATER NEWS & UPDATES...

We have new instructions for the IRLP system that I will send via email upon request. Send your requests to pmm@saf.com John, K14Y, will also be broadcast-emailing the latest IRLP instructions before our January meeting. These instructions give you the ability to initiate connections to the IRLP Reflectors using our 224.34 and 444.825 machines. There is a IRLP "kids" net on Saturday nights at 8PM EDT. It would be nice if one of the younger club members, or an adult interested in the kids net, would take responsibility for moving the IRLP system over to 444.825 every Friday night around 7:45PM. Contact me for details.

The FOX tower project continues to linger. Thank goodness we put the Maggiore 145.35 machine back on the tower. As I write this we are battling an intermittent problem with the sensitivity of the VHF receiver on the GE Master II. We were hoping to deploy the VHF GE repeater between Christmas and New Year's, but we probably won't have it done until the first week of January. Hang in there...we will get it done!

Finally, KD4EHM and I were working on a voter controller for 146.82. It isn't finished and in fact I clumsily "let the smoke out" of the prototype board Mike had built. I am embarrassed, because were it not for me, we'd have better control over which receivers are eligible for voting by now. We are redesigning the board and should have it in service by the end of January. This is a long story, so feel free to ask Mike or me about it on the repeater sometime.

73's Penn K4PE

## SIGNMAN of Baton Rouge



### ORDER THE W4DOC BADGE!



The Atlanta Amateur Radio Club badge has a SILVER background with BLUE letters and the CLUB LOGO in GOLD. The distinctive Atlanta skyline; designed by Roy Epps, K4UWO; makes this name tag unique. The ARC badge is \$8.75 (includes s&h).

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SPOT TO START! CONTACT THE HAM EDITOR  
JOHN, K14Y

FOR MORE INFORMATION [WWW.SAF.COM/ARC](http://WWW.SAF.COM/ARC)

## KID'S DAY...

(Continued from page 1)

<<http://www.arrl.org/ead/kd-rules.html>>.

**Dates:** January 5, 2002.

**Time:** 1800 to 2400Z. No limit on operating time.

**Suggested exchange:** Name, age, location and favorite color. You are encouraged to work the same station again if an operator has changed. Call "CQ Kid's Day."

**Suggested Frequencies:** 28350 to 28400 kHz, 21380 to 21400, 14270 to 14300 kHz and 2-meter repeater frequencies with permission from your area repeater sponsor. Observe third party traffic restrictions when making DX QSOs.

**Reporting:** Logs and comments may be posted on the Internet to [kids@contesting.com](mailto:kids@contesting.com). You may review these postings on the Web. Those without Internet access may forward comments to the Boring Amateur Radio Club.

Web site, <http://www.jzap.com/k7rat/>

## FM CW KEYS

Submitted by David P Schornak KG4LSK

Or better title how to send Morse code over a 2m FM radio.

Many of us have tried, or will try, to learn Morse code so we can pass the 5 words per minute element 1 test and upgrade to general and onto extra class. I know I have used the ARRL CD's and Morse cat and nu Morse; but these can't compare to actually using the code to talk to others. To use the code to talk to others, there is some hardware that is needed; a radio that is capable of cw on the band that you are currently are granted privileges to use. Well, most of us have 2m fm radios of one brand or another but most are not capable of cw, consequently that means that we will have to buy new radios (we are talking \$\$\$\$ here) or come up with a device that would enable us to send code via the equipment that we already have. Here is where I came in; I live in an area of town where there are at least 6 tech grade hams within simplex range of me. It would be nice if we could use our radios to talk to each other using Morse code and to have the ability to immediately test what we copied by reading it back to the guy who sent it. This would give us the practice of using the code, both sending and receiving, also, with the use of tapes and software, the ability to pass the 5 wpm code test and the fun of ham radio.

## PROPOSED CHANGES TO BYLAWS...

### Proposed Revisions to the Club's By-Laws

I have a few changes to the by-laws that I'd like to propose. We will discuss these changes at January and February meeting and vote them in February.

Because we no longer mail out membership cards, nor do I wish to have them a part of our annual elections process, delete paragraph 3.60

Because we no longer have them, Omit "Bulletin Board Manager, Club Station Manager" from the first sentence of paragraph 5.10(4). Add the newly created "Membership Chairman" so that 5.10(4) reads: *"The President shall recommend appointees for the following management assignments to the Executive Board: Activities Manager, Publications Manager, Hamfest Chairman, Repeater Manager, Training Manager and Membership Chairman."*

Because we no longer have a BBS or Club Station, delete paragraphs 6.30 and 6.40.

Because the board is not having regular monthly club meetings but instead communicates primarily via email and phone calls, delete paragraph 7.40

Because we want to make full-time college students under 25 years of age eligible for the Student Membership category, change the last sentence of paragraph 8.10 to read *"Student memberships shall be eight (\$8.00) dollars each for the same period as full members. A student is defined as someone who is under the age of 25 years, and a full time student."*

Well, many of us have used practice code oscillators and it would be nice if we could modify one to send code over the radio. This could be just holding the mic up to the practice oscillator and then with the free hand working the code key. Using the mic in this way is cumbersome and does not work the same as doing cw on an hf rig. We need a device that will hook up to the mic, operate the ptt switch, and generate a tone when the code key is pressed. So this is where I got the inspiration for the circuit below:

The circuit is based on a 555 timer to create a tone oscillator. The audio is then run through a relay and then split

(Continued on page 7)

**ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, INC P.O. Box 720398 Atlanta, GA 30358**

New[ ] Renewal[ ] Treasurer Use: Date Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash[ ] or Check#  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Family Names (Included in membership) List Here:

Type of Application [ ] Voting \$22 [ ] Associate \$15 [ ] Student \$8 [ ] Family \$2(non-voting)

Please include my renewal [ ] new [ ] membership in ARRL when processing this

ARRL Dues are as follows for one year: \$39 Regular, \$5 Blind, and \$34 Over 65 yrs. Add \$5 for additional family.

NOTE: The ARC receives a bonus rebate when members join or renew through the club.

ARRL Dues include subscription to QST Magazine (Except Family/Blind memberships)

DUES PAID: ARC \$ \_\_\_\_\_ + FAMILY \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL \$ \_\_\_\_\_ + FAMILY \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to Atlanta Radio Club SUMMARY \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## FM CW KEYER By David P Schornak KG4LSK

*(Continued from page 6)*

into one circuit that goes to the mic and the other half of the circuit goes to the speaker. The relay that controls the audio is a DPST and is controlled by the code key. The other half of the relay controls the PTT circuit.

The PTT circuit starts at the other half of the audio relay, which controls the PTT relay and which is an SPST, using a capacitor sized according to the relay's coil resistance. A 2200 micro farad capacitor seems to be just right for a relay with a 500 ohm coil, and will keep the PTT line grounded for about a second after the code key is last closed. This keeps the radio transmitting during the whole time you are keying and keeps you from loosing any dits or dahs.

The code oscillator is turned on when

the switch S1 is switched to the oscillator when switched to the mic the oscillator is turned off and the mic is turned back on. The circuit is powered buy 4 AA batteries. It could use a 9-volt battery however I had the AA battery holder on hand.

I have PCB art; however, I did not use it, as I did not have the means to etch a board. So, I used a piece of perf-board to build the whole circuit and I used wire wrap wire to make all the connections from all the different components. I also used a plastic project box to put every thing in. I used a piezo speaker; however, any 8-ohm speaker should work fine. I also used a quarter inch jack for the key to plug into as that is the size that is on the back of my hf rig and this would only require one cable to work both rigs.

I set mine up to be used with a Ken-

wood tm d700 however the schematic can easily be altered for your rig. If you want the dwg file for the schematic and PCB art or a kit just email me at kg4lsk@arrl.net for pricing and availability. I built my final version of this keyer for about \$29.95.

When hooked up to the radio it should be mentioned that the cw keyer should be used carefully and not be used in such a way as to cause harmful interference. I would recommend that you never use it on a repeater with multiple links connected or when linked into IRLP or when the repeater is being used. I would recommend that you contact the repeater operator and ask and demonstrate it for them and get there okay to use it. Remember, simplex actually works the best, as you don't loose anything due to the repeater starting up.

ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, INC  
PO BOX 720398  
ATLANTA, GA 30358



## MEETING NOTICE JANUARY 3, 2002

*(Continued from page 1)*

as a digi repeater. The d7g with the other Tripmate went wherever I did on the trip through the woods. I ran it off the cigar lighter on my ATV (no, just the jack is there the - lighter was extra). I would not be out of sight of my ATV when I was in the woods so this seemed like a reasonable thing to do. For long periods of time off the ATV, I would take the radio and Tripmate with me to the stand. With this equipment in my hands, I would send messages to my home station where a friend of mine would come by on a daily basis and check to see if the messages were received and that I was alright. Well, the equipment was in place and all worked well for the first few days. It was when I tried to use less equipment that the problems occurred and, thus the reason for this story.

Every morning I would turn on the d700 in the jeep then fire up my ATV

and head to the woods. I was getting status reports from friends here in Atlanta such as kd4bku, kf4zyn-9, n4out, and others. I sent messages to them; however, I did not get a message back and figured that was due to the fact that they were busy. I also got the status reports from my home station here in Alpharetta. I sent messages to my home station also, and these were received since my system sent an ack back to me. My friend found my messages on my computer and read them and knew that I was fine. Well, wanting to experiment I tried leaving the d700 off. I still got the status reports so I thought I was fine. (Okay, I know now what I get for thinking)

Tuesday was the day I was due back. My friend knew that Monday and Tuesday of the week of the November 26 I would be alone so she knew she had to check on those days in particular. Monday was fine, as I left the d700 on that day. On

Tuesday, I did not turn the d700 on as I was running late and just did not take the time to turn it on (30 yard walk from my trailer and ATV to the jeep to turn it on), so I left for the woods, got to the stand and proceeded to hunt. I turned the d7g and the Tripmate "on" as I was sitting in the stand waiting for the deer to come by (no deer). Sent a message to my home station to tell my friend that a couple of hunting club members had shown up and I was going to stay on till Thursday morning with them. I also sent a status report that I was fine. Well I turned off the radio thinking that the message would get through and all would be fine. I never turned the d7g back on that day. Hunted all day and came back to camp, ate dinner and went to bed.

*See if David survives the night!*  
*Part Two – Feb. 2002 Atlanta HAM*